

Date: Sun, 21 Mar 93 08:42:39 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #357  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Sun, 21 Mar 93                      Volume 93 : Issue    357

Today's Topics:

                    ANS-080 BULLETINS  
                    Ham only dual-bander HT?  
                    HELP!!! with TM-741A  
                    N.A. 5.000MHz Time Signal - not WWV - what is it?  
                    Nicad Memory Effect-Fact or Myth?  
                    PLEASE IGNORE HIM! (was Re: Real NoCodes)  
                    Repeater in simplex band??  
                    VK2WI Weekly News, 21st March 1993  
                    WX FAX circuit wanted

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

-----

Date: 21 Mar 93 13:31:02 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: ANS-080 BULLETINS  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB SAT @ AMSAT    \$ANS-080.01  
STS-55/SAREX MISSION INFO

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 080.01 FROM AMSAT HQ  
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 20, 1992                      BID:\$ANS-080.01  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

STS-55/SAREX Mission Planned Lift-Off Set For 22-March-93

With only a few days before launch, the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) team is preparing for what promises to be the first of several SAREX flights planned for 1993.

The STS-55 Space Shuttle Columbia mission is currently scheduled to be launched into a 28.5 deg orbit on Monday, March 22 at 14:51 UTC. A 2.5 hour launch window is planned. The STS-55 mission, designated SL-D2 (Spacelab Deutsche-2), represents the second in a series of dedicated flights for Germany. The primary goals of the mission are to perform studies in materials and life science research. A 9 day mission is planned.

The seven person crew on STS-55 includes ham radio operators Steve Nagel (N5RAW), Jerry Ross (N5SCW), Charlie Precourt (KB5YSQ), Hans Schlegel, (DG1KIH) and Ulrich Walter (DG1KIM). SAREX operations planned on this flight include both 2M voice contacts and packet operations. The primary voice callsign will be N5RAW. The packet radio callsign is W5RRR-1.

The 2M FM voice and packet downlinks for the SAREX station are on 145.55 MHz.

Uplinks are:	Voice	Packet
Europe	144.80 144.75 144.70	144.49
Rest of World	144.99 144.97 144.95 144.93 144.91	144.49

Note: The crew will not favor any specific voice uplink frequency, so your ability to communicate with SAREX will be the "luck of the draw."

For all operations, Earth stations should listen to the downlink frequency and transmit only when the Shuttle is in range and the astronauts are on the air. Listen for any instructions from the astronauts as to specific uplink frequencies in use during the current pass. Also, listen to the uplink frequencies before transmitting to avoid interference to other users.

In addition to the U.S. SAREX ham gear in the Shuttle mid-deck, an additional ham radio station will be flown in the German spacelab module. This station, designated SAFEX (for Spacelab Amateurfunk-Experiment), includes a 2M FM downlink and a 70CM FM uplink capability. A dual band (2M/70CM) external antenna, mounted on the German spacelab module, will be

used for SAFEX contacts. Payload Specialists Schlegel and Walter expect to make a few scheduled contacts with European schools with this equipment.

The externally mounted SAFEX antenna gives the SAREX team an opportunity to compare the performance of the U.S. SAREX window mounted antenna to an externally mounted antenna. A special A/B antenna test is planned on Orbits #61 and #62 using the normal SAREX downlink frequency, 145.55 MHz. During Orbit #61 the crew will transmit using the SAREX window antenna and on Orbit #62 the crew will use the SAFEX external antenna. Individuals in the Southeastern U.S. are welcome to help participate in this test by taking signal strength readings of the received signal for both orbit passes. If the shuttle is well above your horizon (>10 deg) for both passes, see page 42 of the February, 1993 QST to learn more details.

The following represents the prelaunch Keplerian Element Set as generated by Gil Carman (WA5NOM).

STS-55

```
1 00055U          93 81.66931033 .00120200 00000-0 36300-3 0    50
2 00055 28.4697 234.3316 0003812 314.2100 45.8202 15.90487610    29
```

Satellite: STS-55

Catalog number: 00055

Epoch time: 93081.66931033 =====> (22-MAR-93 16:03:48.41 UTC)

Element set: JSC-005

Inclination: 28.4697 deg

RA of node: 234.3316 deg

Space Shuttle Flight STS-55

Eccentricity: .0003812

Prelaunch Keplerian Elements

Arg of perigee: 314.2100 deg

Launch: 22-MAR-93 14:51 UTC

Mean anomaly: 45.8202 deg

Mean motion: 15.90487610 rev/day

G. L. Carman

Decay rate: 1.2020e-03 rev/day\*2

NASA Johnson Space Center

Epoch rev: 2

[The AMSAT News Service would like to thank Frank Bauer (KA3HDO) for this bulletin item.]

/EX

SB SAT @ AMSAT \$ANS-080.02

ANS HAND-OVER

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 080.02 FROM AMSAT HQ

SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 20, 1993 BID:\$ANS-080.02

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMSAT News Service Editor WD0HHU Returns From South American Vacation

AMSAT News Service Editor (ANS) Dave Cowdin (WD0HHU) returned from a three

week vacation of South America. He reports that his vacation "had to be one of the greatest vacations experienced by mortal man." His travels included the Carnival Parade in Rio de Janeiro. During the Brazilian part of his vacation he stayed at the QTH of Dr. Junior Torres de Castro (PY2BJO). PY2BJO accompanied W0HHU to Rio de Janeiro for the Carnival celebration. Other points of interest in W0HHU's vacation included Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires, San Carlos de Bariloche, Santiago, Chile and finally, Punta Arenas, Chile. W0HHU stated that one of the high-points of his vacations were his observations of penguins near Punta Arenas. He noted that the behavior of penguins reminded him alot of ham radio operators, however, he refused to comment further, only saying that "when you to see those little guys in action, you will understand the similarities." Also, W0HHU wanted to express his appreciation to the AMSAT-LU group in Buenos Aires who received him and made his stay in Buenos Aires most enjoyable. The AMSAT-LU group planned many excellent receptions for W0HHU and discussed in depth about their new AMSAT-LU OSCAR satellite to be launched later this year aboard a Soviet rocket. In closing, W0HHU wanted to express his appreciation to John Magliacane (KD2BD) for editing the ANS bulletins during his absence. KD2BD, who also edits the SPACENEWS bulletins, kept the ANS bulletins and OSCAR information flowing during W0HHU's three week vacation.

Now that W0HHU is back "on-line" with the ANS, he requests that those who were sending OSCAR status reports to please send them to him via 1) INTERNET: wd0hhu@amsat.org 2) CompuServe at 70524,2272, or 3) W0HHU @ W0LJF.#NECO.CO.USA.NOAM.

/EX

SB SAT @ AMSAT \$ANS-080.03

AMSAT OPS NET SCHEDULES

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 080.03 FROM AMSAT HQ  
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 20, 1993 BID: \$ANS-080.03  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

#### AMSAT-NA Operations Net Schedule

AMSAT Operations Nets are planned for the following times. Mode B Nets are conducted on A0-13 on a downlink frequency of 145.950 MHz and Mode J/L on a downlink of 435.970 MHz.

Date	UTC	Mode	Phs	NCS	Alt
28-Mar-93	0100	B	51	WJ9F	VE2LVC
3-Apr-93	2130	B	150	VE2LVC	W9ODI
10-Apr-93	2230	B	86	N7NQM	W5IU

Any stations with information on current events would be most welcome. Also, those interested in discussing technical issues or who have questions

about any particular aspect of OSCAR statellite operations are encouraged to join the OPS Nets. In the unlikely event that either the Net Control Station (NCS) or the alternate do not call on frequency, any participant is invited to act as the NCS.

\*\*\*\*\*

Slow Scan Television on A0-13

SSTV sessions will be held on UTC Saturdays and Sundays:

Mode J                      Downlink 435.980 MHz

Mode B after J      Downlink 145.960 MHz

OPS NETS will take priority, look for SSTV activity immediately after the net. SSTVer's are invited to join the Net to make schedules at other times if desired.

/EX

SB SAT @ AMSAT    \$ANS-080.04

WEEKLY OSCAR STATUS REPORTS

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 080.04 FROM AMSAT HQ  
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 20, 1993              BID: \$ANS-080.04  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

WEEKLY OSCAR STATUS REPORT: 03/20/93

W0-18: Date: 03/20/93: W0-18 has had new software loaded and put into operation. It is again sending pictures as PHOTO packets and now spectra as SPECT packets. PACSAT (A0-16) file 37D9 contains a preliminary SPECT packet extract, decode, and display program. [KB7KCL]

A0-13: Date: 03/20/93:

QST \*\*\* A0-13 TRANSPONDER SCHEDULE \*\*\* 1993 Feb 08 - Mar 08

Mode-B : MA 0 to MG 40 ! (

Mode-S : MA 40 to MA 50 !<- Mode-S Transponder is on; Mode-B is OFF

Mode-LS : MA 50 to MA 55 !<- Mode-S Beacon on & Mode-L Transponder

Mode-JL : MA 55 to MA 70 !              Blon/Blat: 180/0

Mode-B : MA 70 to MA 256 !

Omnis : MA 170 to MA 15 !

Please don't uplink to Mode-B from MA 40-50 because this interferes with Mode-S operations. For keen telemetry watchers, do not forget that A0-13 will start experiencing solar eclipses beginning 28-Jan-93. Please note that the next ZRO Test will be Monday, 29-MAR-93 at 03:40 UTC with a Mode JL downlink frequency of 435.945 MHz. The next ZRO test after that will be Saturday, 3-APR-93 at 19:30 UTC with a Mode B downlink frequency of 145.840 MHz. For more details about the ZRO Tests and how you can participate, see

\$ANS-072.03 bulletin. [VK5AGR]

RS-10: Date: 03/20/93: In a "late-breaking status" report by WC9C, he reports that RS-10 has been performing well, even during daylight passes signals have been strong. WC9C would like to remind everyone that this is a very easy bird to use, uplink power levels from 10-25 watts eirp generate very good downlinks. WC9C uses verticals for the uplink/downlink most of the time. Here is this week's telemetry beacon message copied by WC9C from RS-10. "CQ DE RS3A / PSE SEND UR QSLs FOR ROBOT QSOS TO ADDRESS ANDREY MIRONOV. UL VVOLOSHIN0J. D11. KV72. STATION PERLOVSHAYA. 141000. MOSCOW. RUSSIA PSE IN ENVELOPE/ YOU MAY CONTACT ME BY PACKET. MY CALL IS RS3KPK. BBS IS RS3KP.RUS.EU AR " [WC9C]

A0-16: Date 03/20/93: Operating normally. [WH6I]

L0-19: Date 03/20/93: Operating normally. [WH6I]

U0-22: Date 03/20/93: Operating normally. No recent image files. [WH6I]

K0-23: Date 03/20/93: Operating normally. No recent images. One image file is nothing useful. [WH6I]

A0-21: Date 03/20/93: A0-21 has 5 min of FM repeater operation, 3 min of recorded voice message, and 2 min of 1200 baud AFSK packet. [4Z5BS]

F0-20: Date 03/20/93: G0NKA reports that the Dual-Hop experiments through A0-21 and into F0-20 performed on 3-MAR-93 were very successful. He says to expect further Dual-Hop experiments on A0-21 through RS-10 on 28-MAR-93. [G0NKA]

/EX

-----  
Date: Sun, 21 Mar 1993 14:45:16 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Ham only dual-bander HT?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1246@arrl.org> zlau@arrl.org (Zack Lau) writes:  
>In rec.radio.amateur.misc, gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary Coffman) writes:  
>  
>>There's another way to reduce intermod rather than using tight filters.  
>>That's to have a very robust RF amplifier stage with a high standing  
>>current, say 100 ma. That way no incoming signal can push the stage into  
>>the nonlinearity required to cause mixes. But it eats batteries like mad.  
>  
>I got my 2M preamp back, which has now survived EME and contest use. :-).

>  
>It uses an MGF 1801 and has a +28.2 dBm output intercept and a +3.3  
>dBm input intercept. The DC bias is 3.2 volts at 29 mA. (1.8 volts  
>of source voltage) A clever designer might come up with a low noise  
>switching supply to reduce to current to say, 15 mils off your typical  
>HT battery. In the Microwave 89 update, p.44, Tom Hill describes a  
>technique for avoiding switcher birdies.

>  
>The 1801 is a \$50 power GaAs FET used for X/Ku band power amps.  
>This input intercept is some 20 to 60 dB better than the 2 meter  
>HTs in the Oct 92 QST product review. Of course, you do need a good  
>mixer to take advantage of such a preamp.... And, if you have to  
>know, the NF is around 0.2 dB.

That is good performance, but in some parts of our fair town, +3.3  
dbm isn't good enough. A HT 60 db worse is a crime against nature. :-)  
A nice CATV line amp bipolar with 80 ma of standing current, as used  
in certain older commercial mobile radios, \*is\* bulletproof under these  
high signal conditions. That gives an intercept of about +25 dbm.

Gary

--  
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary  
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary  
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary  
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | |

-----  
Date: 20 Mar 93 22:40:10 CST  
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!  
kuhub.cc.ukans.edu!baxter@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: HELP!!! with TM-741A  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>  
> For the record, I have a 741 (have had one since they first came out) with  
> all the mods. I have used the radio to receive oob transmissions, very  
> little intermod, unless I'm in one of the famous "intermod alleys" here in  
> the Dallas - Fort Worth area. In those areas, only a Micor receiver holds  
> up. Wish I could give you some solutions. It's kind of hard for Kenwood  
> to be of any help (or any amateur radio mfr for that matter) since it's  
> really not theie bailywick. 73.  
> --  
> |Marc Grant | Internet: marcbg@feenix.metronet.com

Thanks for your comments Marc.

The more I use the 741A, it really seems like the radio isn't hearing real intermod, but is just going into "seizures", spewing forth what sounds like audio from a local FM or TV station.

I drove around downtown Kansas City, our intermod alley, and really had little trouble, except for occasional spurts of noise from the radio. Then I drove out in the countryside, and I still got these spurts of broadband audio junk, usually S2-4, just enough to tie up the scan feature, or hold the squelch open. If a signal is on, one can hear it mixing with the signal.

I found on one of the file servers a mod from some years ago, where another TM741 user had traced some "intermod" problems to instability in the pre-amp section of the 450 module. I'm wondering if anyone else has gotten into the circuitry of the 741 like this fellow did. His solution was to put a resistor between one point in the pre-amp path and ground. Can't recall where, but he claimed it was to dampen some signal leakage path.

I understand fully why Kenwood can't and won't help on such matters. I can't, however, understand why the tech I talked to was so rude. When I delt with Icom techs on similar matters of improving their out-of-band selectivity, not only were they helpful, but they FAXed me some data. Oh well, perhaps help can come from the ham community rather than the manufacturer.

Thanks for your reply.

Kirk, N0FPZ

-----  
Date: Sun, 21 Mar 1993 14:58:43 GMT  
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!bogus.sura.net!NS1.PeachNet.EDU!emory!athena!aisun3.ai.uga.edu!mcovingt@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: N.A. 5.000MHz Time Signal - not WWV - what is it?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <Xkwo1B3w165w@inqmind.bison.mb.ca> bills@inqmind.bison.mb.ca (Bill Shymanski) writes:

>mwandel@bnr.ca (Markus Wandel) writes:

>> While I'm on this topic... sometimes when the propagation is good  
>> it is possible to hear both WWV and WWVH together (usually on 10MHz  
>> or 15MHz with my setup). How come the carrier frequencies of the  
>> two stations do not interfere with each other? Suppose you are  
>>



>[...] So, the maximum beat frequency you'd expect to get between the  
>two stations would be something like .25 HZ at 5 MHZ - which would  
>be indistinguishable from propagation effects. And, very likely,  
>both stations really are on the same frequency most of the time -  
>thus eliminating the beat.  
> Bill

I'll bet WWVH is phase-locked to WWV.

--  
:- Michael A. Covington           internet mcovingt@ai.uga.edu :       \*\*\*\*\*  
:- Artificial Intelligence Programs       phone 706 542-0358 :       \*\*\*\*\*  
:- The University of Georgia           fax 706 542-0349 :       \* \* \*  
:- Athens, Georgia 30602-7415 U.S.A.       amateur radio N4TMI :   \*\* \*\*\* \*\*

-----  
Date: Sun, 21 Mar 1993 14:53:37 GMT  
From: swrinde!emory!athena!aisun3.ai.uga.edu!mcovingt@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Nicad Memory Effect-Fact or Myth?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The issue is addressed in THE ART OF ELECTRONICS, by Horowitz and Hill,  
second edition.

Horowitz and Hill found that lack of deep discharge doesn't harm  
batteries, but overcharging does. If you charge a battery a lot more  
than it needs, it will lose some capacity. That capacity can be restored  
by deeply discharging it.

--  
:- Michael A. Covington           internet mcovingt@ai.uga.edu :       \*\*\*\*\*  
:- Artificial Intelligence Programs       phone 706 542-0358 :       \*\*\*\*\*  
:- The University of Georgia           fax 706 542-0349 :       \* \* \*  
:- Athens, Georgia 30602-7415 U.S.A.       amateur radio N4TMI :   \*\* \*\*\* \*\*

-----  
Date: Sun, 21 Mar 1993 12:33:05 GMT  
From: noc.near.net!gateway!miki!wpns@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: PLEASE IGNORE HIM! (was Re: Real NoCodes)  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>---- REAL HAMS BOUND BRASS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Folks, we've seen his ilk before, and BRASS BOUND is just trying to  
stir up another flame war. If you can at all, just ignore him, and

it'll all fade away. If you really can't sit on your hands, send him mail. Kevie is closing in on the big Four-Oh, and it's some kind of midlife crisis thang. He was a Tech himself till just recently, and can't stand it that someone else might be having fun.

--

Willie Smith  
wpns@pictel.com  
N1JBJ@amsat.org

-----

Date: Sun, 21 Mar 1993 15:22:30 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Repeater in simplex band??  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar20.175635.15511@netcom.com> stevew@netcom.com (Steven Wilson) writes:

>In article <86RN1B6w164w@phsbbs.princeton.nj.us>, n2gj@phsbbs.princeton.nj.us (Gerry Jurrens) writes:

>> stuff deleted...

>> As far as remote bases, specifically, I believe there was a rule change a few years ago that banned simplex remote bases on frequencies below 220 MHz. It seems to me that they are now verboten on 2M. Am I correct?  
>> I think it's OK if the input frequency is 220 or above if the output comes out on 2M - could be wrong....was once (but it was a VERY long time ago ;-)

>

>First off... there are no rules concerning "remote bases" in the 1989 rewrite of part 97(that I've ever found anyway...) What you are thinking of are auxiliary links which is a different breed of cat.  
>Consult Part 97 for details ;-)

Remote bases are covered in 97.109(c).

Also consult 97.213(a) which limits radio control of remote base stations to auxiliary link stations. Those are, of course, limited to 222 MHz and above as noted in 97.201(b).

Since the commonly termed "simplex" remote base, IE simpatches and the like, is controlled on it's operating frequency, that limits it to 1.25 meters or above. On the other hand, a simplex \*station\* can be operated remotely on 2 meters provided it's under control of a wireline, or an auxiliary station (operating above 222 MHz).

>P.S. Shouldn't this shunt over to .policy ?

Yep, and I've redirected followups to that group.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

-----  
Date: Sun, 21 Mar 93 13:51:24 GMT  
From: munnari.oz.au!metro!ipso!runxtsa!richardm@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: VK2WI Weekly News, 21st March 1993  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

VK2WI Weekly News, 21st March 1993. Copyright 1993 WIA (NSW)  
and contributors. Extracts from this bulletin may be used  
elsewhere provided the source is acknowledged.

#### VK2WI Weekly News Bulletin

for

21st March 1993

#### THE MAJOR NEWS ITEMS THIS WEEK

VK2 QSL Bureau Changes

Amateurs in the News

Shuttle Launch (maybe?)

RadCom Act 1992

#### DIVISIONAL NEWS

We'd like to remind you that the VK2 Divisional AGM has been  
put back to Sunday, 9th May. Please note the new date in  
your diary; the date shown in the current issue of "Amateur  
Radio" magazine is now incorrect.

There have been 12 nominations for the 9 Council positions,  
and ballot papers, meeting agenda, and reports will be

posted to members early next month.

One of the items to be discussed at the AGM is a proposal by Graham VK2DIG to procure an obsolete 18 metre dish, which the Australian National Telescope Facility at Parkes will make available to the WIA at no cost. The division will have to pay for its transport and resiting. More details of the proposal will arrive in your postbox in April.

The next Divisional TRASH AND TREASURE SALE will take place next Sunday afternoon at Amateur Radio House, 109 Wigram Street, Parramatta.

These sales are also quite a social event, so even if you are not selling or buying, come along anyway and meet people you haven't seen for years. This event is naturally dependant upon the weather, so please listen to next Sunday's broadcast for any late news.

The Divisional Bookshop advises that the 1993 Australian Radio Amateur Callbook has now sold out. You'll have to wait another six months or so for the 1994 edition.

We've been advised that the "BRITISH WEEKLY TELEGRAPH" newspaper, which appeared on newstands about the 10th or 11th March, carried an article entitled "Banding Together in Defence of Radio Hams". The Division would welcome a copy of this article.

Meanwhile, on the 9th March, the "BORDER MAIL" newspaper, in Albury, NSW, featured a local radio amateur, Rob Campiciano, who helped rescue a Melbourne father and son, who got lost while bushwalking in poor visibility on Mt Bogong. The lost pair sent out a distress signal on their radio, which Rob picked up and relayed to police. Several hours later, they were located some 2 km from where they wanted to be.

Rob, who was also involved in the Ash Wednesday rescue operations some years ago, proved to be a key element in the prompt location of the pair. Congratulations Rob for proving the real value of Amateur Radio, and getting some positive publicity for our hobby.

Have you seen, or better yet, MADE some good news in your local press? If so, why not tell us about it?

#### VK2 QSL BUREAU CHANGES

Last week, the broadcast included a tape from John VK2XY, detailing changes to the VK2 QSL bureau. Here is a summary of the changes, which come into force after the April mailing:

1. To use the QSL bureau service, you must be bureau member.
2. The Bureau will now ONLY post QSL cards to Bureau members' homes or Post Boxes. Bulk postings to clubs will be discontinued, except for the Armed Services.
3. Membership of the Bureau is automatically granted to WIA members and NO FEES are charged.
4. Non WIA members can join the bureau for \$36 per year, or \$9 per quarter.
5. Cards arriving at the Bureau for non members will be disposed of immediately.
6. Bureau members are responsible for advising any changes to their mailing address. Cards returned as "Undeliverable", will be disposed of after one month.
7. It is the Bureau member's responsibility to ensure that membership is current. No reminders can be sent. Membership expiry date is now printed on the address label.

Full details of the changes appear in a recent packet bulletin from John VK2XY.

-- John Robinson, VK2XY, VK2 QSL Bureau Administrator

#### REPEATER NEWS

The Hornsby Morse machine, VK2RCW, has returned to its 80 metre frequency of 3699 kHz after some maintenance work.

The Central Coast ARC recently commissioned their Morse training machine on 439.950 MHz, though it might only be of use to those of you trying to improve your already high speed, as it appears to have locked up at 20+ wpm.

#### SHUTTLE NEWS

It appears that the launch date for the Space Shuttle "Columbia" was changed again. The latest report, from N5IST says that the launch will go ahead early Monday morning Australian time. The "launch window" opens on Sunday at 14:52 UTC, and the flight will last nine days. The Space Shuttle "Discovery", originally scheduled for launch on Tuesday, has now been put back to 7th April.

As mentioned on earlier bulletins, Columbia will carry 2m packet and voice gear, and will use a downlink of 145.550 MHz. Please keep this frequency clear when the Shuttle is in the area. The German crew members will also be active on an unspecified 70 cm frequency.

The TREMORA HISTORICAL MUSEUM is looking for an A.W.A Low Band base station transceiver, possibly a type MR-10, for their ambulance display. If you can help out, please contact VK2BGU.

#### RADCOM ACT 1992

Those of you who modify your transceivers for out-of-band operation, and those of you who have Amateur gear but just haven't bothered getting a license, might like to check out an article appearing in the latest edition of "Amateur Radio Action" magazine.

The article, which examines the 1992 Radiocommunications Act highlights some very stiff penalties for those who use radio transmitting AND RECEIVING equipment, without holding the appropriate license. From 1st July, you won't even have to be caught using the equipment in order to be convicted of an offence. Note also that some of the offenses also carry a MANDATORY jail term.

The article also raises the possibility that licenses may be required for certain radio receivers as well, such as wideband scanners. We hope to have more details on any such requirements in a future broadcast.

#### HOW TO "SNIFF OUT" RARE DX

The January/February issue of "Health" magazine tells of an interesting technique that might find use among serious DX hunters and QSL card collectors.

It appears that some bill-collection agencies in England have been lacing their invoices with a product containing androstenone, a chemical secreted from men's armpits (and other parts of the anatomy). Androstenone is known to be a sexual attractant in some species.

In one preliminary study, invoices treated with the product had a 14 percent higher payment rate than untreated bills. Perhaps some enterprising DXer would like to try this technique to improve the return rate on his or her QSL cards?

-- spotted in Usenet "Computer Risks" Digest 14.37  
by Richard VK2SKY

#### WICEN NEWS

The coming week is going to be a very busy time for WICEN personnel, with the start of the Big NSW Bike Ride on 27th March; the VRA Conference over 27-28th March; and the "Walk Against Want" on 28th March. Please contact your local Coordinator if you wish to help out in the Bike Ride; and as the Ride will pass through Sydney in its closing stages on the weekend of 3rd-4th April, Sydney WICEN people may contact David Ramsay VK2KLX or Dave Horsfall VK2KFU. Peter O'Connell VK2EMU is coordinating the Walk Against Want, so please contact him if you can take part.

On Sunday 4th April a large team of Hunter WICEN members will be attending the Forster Triathlon, to provide packet and voice communications for Australia's largest Triathlon. WICEN activities will be coordinated by Daryl Waldock VK2DAZ

and Michael Waldock VK2CMW. You can contact Michael on (065) 54-5797. Mical says he'd like both amateurs with 2m and 70 cm gear, as well as anyone with UHF CB equipment.

WICEN Sydney North advises that its AGM will be held on Wednesday 21st April, at Kuringai SES, and volunteers for all committee positions are eagerly sought. This would be a good opportunity for their newer recruits to get involved in the action.

WICEN is always looking for new members to provide the community with communications assistance when required, and it is a useful way of putting back into Amateur radio, that which you are taking out. Write to WICEN (NSW) Inc, PO Box 123, St Leonards 2065; or come up on the regular nets; the Sydney 2m net on Thursday nights at 9.30pm on repeater 7150, and the State-wide HF net on Tuesday nights at 8.30pm on 3.615 MHz.

-- Dave VK2KFU, WICEN (NSW) Publicity Officer

#### IPS WEEKLY REPORT

12 March - 18 March 1993

Issue no.: 12

Date of issue: 19 March 1993

Date	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10cm flux	161	142	136	131	122	124	127
A index	28	20	17	35	25	21	(15 est.)
T index	19	57	106	91	14	37	76

#### Summary of activity

Solar activity was very low on the 13th, 14th, and 17th March, low on the 16th and 17th, moderate on the 15th, and high on the 12th. There was an M7 flare on the 12th, and an M2 flare on 15th.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet to unsettled on the 12th and 14th, with brief active periods on the 12th, and a period of active to minor storm levels from 1200 to 2100 UTC on the 14th. The field was mainly unsettled to active on the 13th, and at active to major



storm levels for most of the 15th. It returned to quiet to unsettled over the remainder of the period, apart from some brief active levels on the 16th and 17th March.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were depressed by up to 50 per cent on the 12th and 13th March, enhanced overnight on the 13th to 14th by up to 20 per cent, then depressed to 15 per cent for the remainder of the 14th. Frequencies returned to near normal on the 15th, again becoming depressed by up to 40 per cent from the 16th to the 18th at 0200 UTC, after which enhancements of up to 50 per cent were registered. Sporadic E layer was noted during daylight hours on the 18th.

#### Forecast for the next week (19 - 25 March)

Solar: Low.

Geomagnetic: Active 19th to 21st March, active to minor storm levels on the 22nd to 23rd March, and quiet to unsettled thereafter.

Ionospheric: 20-40 per cent enhanced for most of the 19th, slight depressions on the 20th and 21st March, major depressions on the 22nd and 23rd March, then near predicted monthly values for the rest of the week. Poor local propagation conditions are expected on the 22nd and 23rd March.

-- Courtesy of IPS Radio and Space Services

#### COMING EVENTS

STS-55 "Columbia" active . . . . . early MONDAY - 30 March  
Royal Naval ARS meeting . . . . . TUESDAY  
WICEN Hunter Region AGM . . . . . WEDNESDAY  
WIA (NSW) Divisional Council meeting . . . . . FRIDAY  
Closing Date for Westham examinations . . . . . FRIDAY  
Start of 1993 Big NSW Bike Ride (WICEN) . . . . . SATURDAY  
Cessnock Rally Sprint (WICEN) . . . . . SATURDAY  
NSW VRA Conference . . . . . SATURDAY - SUNDAY  
Divisional Trash and Treasure Sale . . . . . NEXT SUNDAY  
Summerland ARC exam applications close . . . . . NEXT SUNDAY  
Walk Against Want (WICEN) . . . . . NEXT SUNDAY

WICEN (NSW) end of financial year (reports due!)	. 31 March
Westham Exams	. . . . . 31 March
Special Event Station GB75RAF active	. . . . . 1 April
Forster Triathlon (WICEN)	. . . . . 4 April
End of 1993 Big NSW Bike Ride (WICEN)	. . . . . 4 April
Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club nets	. . . . . 5 April
STS-56 "Discovery" (SAREX) Launch	. . . . . 7 April
St George ARS Ragchew Night	. . . . . 7 April
Fisher's Ghost ARC exam applications close	. . . . . 7 April
WIA (NSW) Divisional Council meeting	. . . . . 9 April

#### CLUB NEWS

The next WESTHAM examinations will be conducted on Wednesday, 31st March, and applications close this Friday, 26th March. Details can be obtained from Bob VK2RG on (02) 743-7555.

The AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR TELEVISION CLUB advises that, for the next three months, club meetings at Parramatta will take place on the FIRST Sunday of the month, instead of the SECOND Sunday, as previously advertised. This is due to clashes with other WIA events being held at Amateur Radio Hous, such as the Divisional AGM. Nominations for the Club's Committee are being taken.

Correspondence for the club may be sent to PO Box 494, Liverpool 2170, or you can phone (02) 671-4832 after hours.

-- Mark VK2GFR

The NSW chapter of the ROYAL NAVAL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY will hold its next monthly meeting at the QTH of the Secretary, Casey VK2CWS, on Tuesday 23rd March, starting at 11 am. All members and interested parties are welcome to attend. You can ring Casey for details on (02) 520-4424.

-- Casey VK2CWS

The RADIO AMATEURS OLD TIMERS CLUB will have its next series of nets and callbacks on Monday, 1st March. The times are as follows:

10am Australian Eastern Standard Time = 2400 UTC,  
on 147.500 MHz FM, and 7.060 MHz LSB;

11am AEST, or 0100 UTC, on 14.150 MHz USB,  
beaming north from Melbourne;

12 noon AEST (Melbourne), or 0200 Z, on 14.150 MHz,  
beaming west from Melbourne.

And the new transmission for those who can't hear  
the usual daytime transmissions:

8:30 pm AEST, or 1030 UTC, on 3.635 MHz LSB

Callbacks will follow each transmission on the stated  
frequencies.

-- Allan Doble VK3AMD

The 44th annual URUNGA RADIO CONVENTION will be held on weekend of the 10th and 11th April. The convention is traditionally held every Easter, and has been returned to the original hall where part of the first convention took place.

The tradition of fox hunting has been carried on each year since 1949, and the Urunga Convention continues to lead the way in this exciting aspect of Amateur Radio in Australia.

The historical "Urunga Scramble" has gained popularity in recent years, since Geoff VK2BYY win the event with just one contact. This trophy is won by the entrant making the most radio contacts on any Amateur band in half an hour on Easter Sunday morning.

Because of the historical nature of the convention, taking time for a chat, over a cup of tea or coffee, is of great importance to many who attend. Comforts that the original convention didn't have are the loungeroom, kitchen, and conveniences, all now attached to the hall. There are no stairs in the hall, so the less mobile among will have no trouble getting around.

The Urunga Radio Convention Committee invites you to this traditional Easter gathering of Radio Amateurs to join the activities and enjoy yourself. For more information, please contact Brian V<sub>k</sub>2ZCQ, Merv V<sub>k</sub>2DMS, or Ken V<sub>k</sub>2DGT.

-- Merv V<sub>k</sub>2DMS

#### BROADCAST ROSTER

Next Sunday morning: Richard V<sub>k</sub>2SKY and Peter V<sub>k</sub>2JPJ  
Next Sunday evening: Paul V<sub>k</sub>2GYO and and Steve V<sub>k</sub>2QZ

The broadcast roster for April to June will be drawn up shortly; would broadcast team members please advise Steve V<sub>k</sub>2QZ of any unavailable dates.

The divisional office is open from 11am to 2pm, Monday to Friday, and 7 to 9pm Wednesday nights. The phone is answered from 12 noon to 1pm during the day, and you can leave a message on the answering machine outside these hours.

News highlights are also available on the divisional voice mailbox on (02) 552-5188, and you can leave a message afterwards if you wish.

Items for inclusion in this bulletin may be sent by mail to Post Office Box 1066, Parramatta 2124; by fax on (02) 633-1525, or by packet radio to "V<sub>k</sub>2WI at V<sub>k</sub>2RWI", to reach us by 7pm on the Friday prior to the broadcast.

V<sub>k</sub>2WI Weekly News, 21st March 1993. Copyright 1993 WIA (NSW) and contributors. Extracts from this bulletin may be used elsewhere provided the source is acknowledged.

--

Richard P. Murnane	"Making it up? Making it up? Why should
Internet: richardm@runx.oz.au	I want to make anything up? Life's bad
UUCP: uunet!runx.oz.au!richardm	enough without inventing more of it."
Packet: V <sub>k</sub> 2SKY @ V <sub>k</sub> 2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC	- Marvin the Paranoid Android

-----

Date: 21 MAR 93 09:53:49

From: pa.dec.com!engage.pko.dec.com!nnnpd.lkg.dec.com!ryn.mro4.dec.com!  
fccvde.enet.dec.com!klimasewski@decwrl.dec.com  
Subject: WX FAX circuit wanted  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am looking for the circuit used by SOFTWARE SYSTEM CONSULTING, PC GOES/WEFAX.  
I would like to compare it to other circuits to determine which might give the  
best picture.

thanks,  
Ken

-----  
End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #357  
\*\*\*\*\*